**REMARKS**

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the claims as amended in this Preliminary Amendment for examination purposes. Entry of this Preliminary Amendment is respectfully requested.

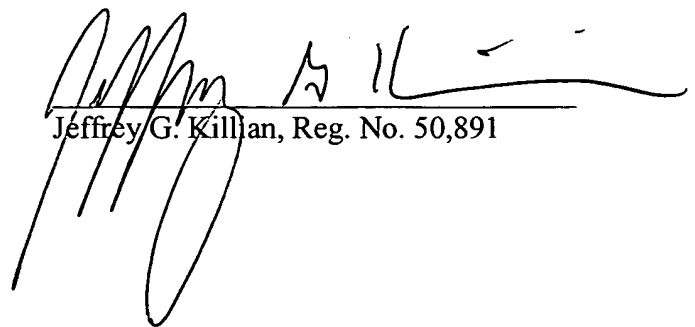
Applicants have amended the claims to remove multiple dependencies. No prohibited new matter has been introduced by these amendments as the amendments are supported by the original claims. Applicants reserve the right to file a Continuation or Divisional application on the subject matter cancelled by way of this amendment.

**CONCLUSION**

If there are any other fees due in connection with the filing of this Preliminary Amendment, please charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 50-0573. If a fee is required for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 not accounted for above, such an extension is requested and the fee should also be charged to our Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

**DRINKER, BIDDLE & REATH LLP**

  
Jeffrey G. Killian, Reg. No. 50,891

Dated: September 29, 2006

**CUSTOMER NO. 55694**  
**DRINKER, BIDDLE & REATH LLP**  
1500 K Street, N.W., Suite 1100  
Washington, D.C. 20005-1209  
Tel: (202) 842-8800; Fax: (202) 204-0289